ATTORNEY DOCKET: 76711.00101

PATENT



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants:

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Serial No.:

10/799,932

Filed:

March 12, 2004

Title:

PRESSURE SENSING METHOD AND

APPARATUS

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AMENDMENT

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Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Introductory Comments

This is in response to the Office Action mailed September 5, 2006 in connection with the above-identified patent application in which the Examiner rejected claims 72, 73, 77, 83, 89, 101-113 and 117-119. Claims 114-116 have been allowed. Claims 1-71 have been withdrawn from consideration.

PATENT

Applicants again traverse the restriction and/or election requirement for claims 1-71 and reserve the right to seek further prosecution of those claims by filing a divisional application based on these claims.

Applicants traverse the rejection of claims 72-73, 77, 89 and 113 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Hardman (U.S. publication 2002-0075145) in view of Cormier (U.S. Patent 6,011,463).

Applicants also traverse the rejection of claims 83, 101-102 and 105-112 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Hardman in view of Cormier and further in view of Feng (U.S. Patent 5,100,206).

In addition, applicants traverse the rejection of claims 103-104 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Hardman in view of Schaeffer (U.S. Patent 5,048,116).

Applicants are pleased to note that claims 114-116 are allowed.

Please amend the claims of this application as follows: